

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-02) today commended country music star Luke Bryan, of Leesburg, Georgia, on his Country Music Association (CMA) Top New Artist Award.

“All of us in Southwest Georgia are proud of his accomplishment and I would like to recognize and applaud Mr. Bryan’s dedication and determination to his art,” Bishop said. “On behalf of my constituents in Georgia’s Second Congressional District, I offer my congratulations on a job well done!”

Luke Bryan won the 45th Annual Academy of Country Music Award for Top New Artist on Sunday, April 18th in Las Vegas, Nevada. The winner was decided from on-line votes cast in February.

The full text of the Congressional Record follows:

Mr. Bishop (GA). Madame Speaker, I rise today to honor Luke Bryan, of Leesburg, Georgia, who won the 45th Annual Academy of Country Music Award for Top New Artist on Sunday, April 18th in Las Vegas, Nevada.

All of us in Southwest Georgia are proud of his accomplishment and I would like to recognize and applaud Mr. Bryan’s dedication and determination to his art. He has worked diligently, and his album, “Doin’ My Thing,” peaked at the Number Two spot on the Country Album Billboard. On behalf of my constituents in Georgia’s Second Congressional District, I offer my congratulations on a job well done!

I cannot put into words the amount of pride that everyone in Leesburg, and indeed in the Second Congressional District, has in being able to claim this outstanding musician as one of us. He has accomplished a special goal, one that could not have been possible without the

unrelenting support and encouragement from his family and community.

The “Top New Artist” winner was elected through fan votes by voting online in February and March. Residents of the City of Leesburg and the State of Georgia should be commended for the outstanding loyalty and support they displayed in voting for Mr. Bryan.

Madame Speaker, Luke Bryan has worked hard, persevered, made sacrifices, and developed the character that will help him to succeed. Once again, I congratulate Mr. Bryan on his achievement.

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